

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No.10/731,419
Filing Date December 9, 2003
Inventor Bejjani and Christensen
Group Art Unit 1637
Examiner David C. Thomas
Attorney's Docket No. SH1-0001US
Confirmation No. 3921
Title: Methods of Designing, Synthesizing, and Propagating Reference Nucleic
Acids

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 27, 2006 AS
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT FOR RCE**

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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests continued examination and entry of the following amendments and remarks contained herein. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance.

A Statement of the Substance of the Examiner Interview of February 21, 2007 begins on page 3 of this document.

A Listing of Claims begins on page 4 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this document.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 7-9, 11, 16, 21-23, 51-53, and 71-74 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 51-53 were previously withdrawn as a non-elected invention.

Please cancel claims 7, and 73.

Please add new claims 75-80.

Claims 3, 6-7, 10, 12-15, 17-20, 24-50, 54-70, and 73 are now canceled.

Please amend claims 1, 4-5, 8-9, 16, 71, and 74 as shown below.

Claims 1-2, 4-5, 8-9, 11, 16, 21-23, 71-72, and 74-80 are pending examination.